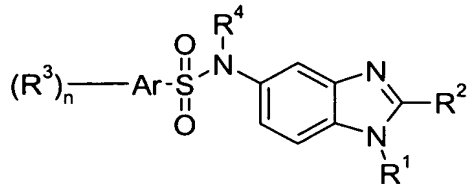
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



I

wherein

R^1 is selected from C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, R^5-C(=O)-O-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6N-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5O-C_{1-6} alkyl, R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5CS(=O)$_2$N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$N(R^7)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-10}hydrocarbylamino, R^5R^6N-, R^5O-, R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$-, R^5CS(=O)$_2$N(-R^6)-, R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$N(R^7)-, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl and C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-; wherein said C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-10}hydrocarbylamino, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl or C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)- used in defining R^1 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and –NR^5R^6;

R^2 is selected from C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, R^5R^6N-, C_{3-5}heteroaryl, C_{6-10}aryl and C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, C_{3-8}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-}

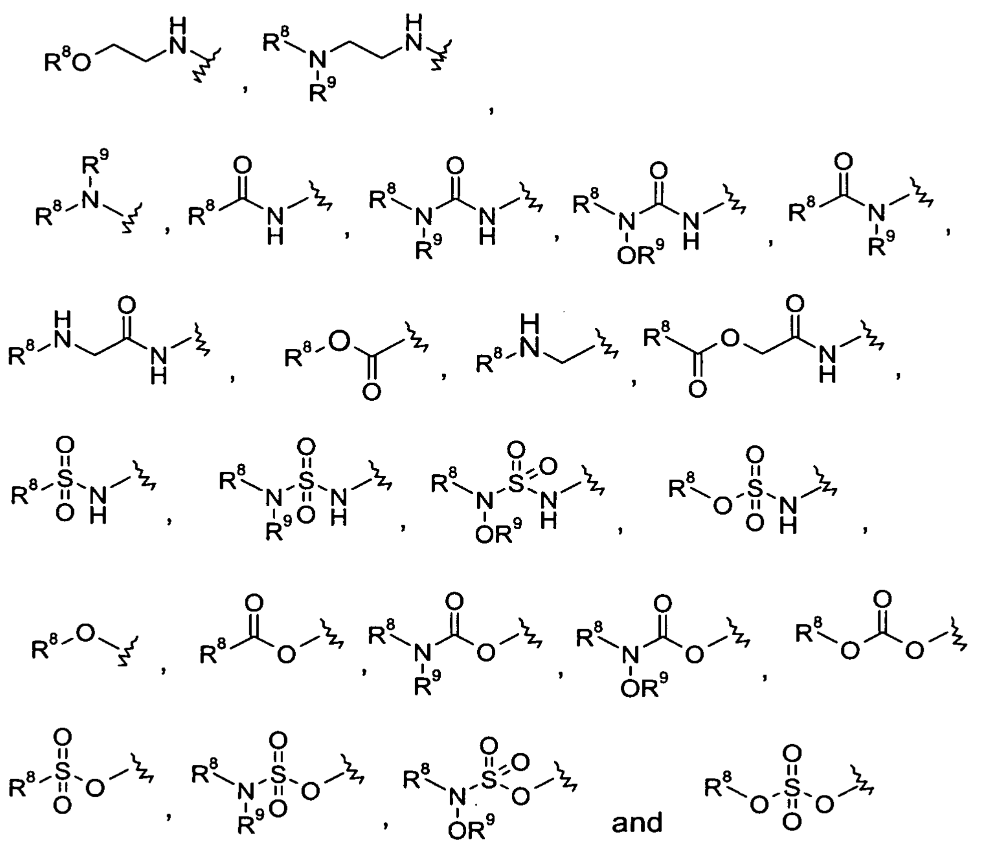
${}_{5}$heteroaryl, C_{6-10}aryl or C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl used in defining R^2 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and $-NR^5R^6$;

wherein R^5, R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from –H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, and a divalent C_{1-6}group that together with another divalent R^5, R^6 or R^7 forms a portion of a ring;

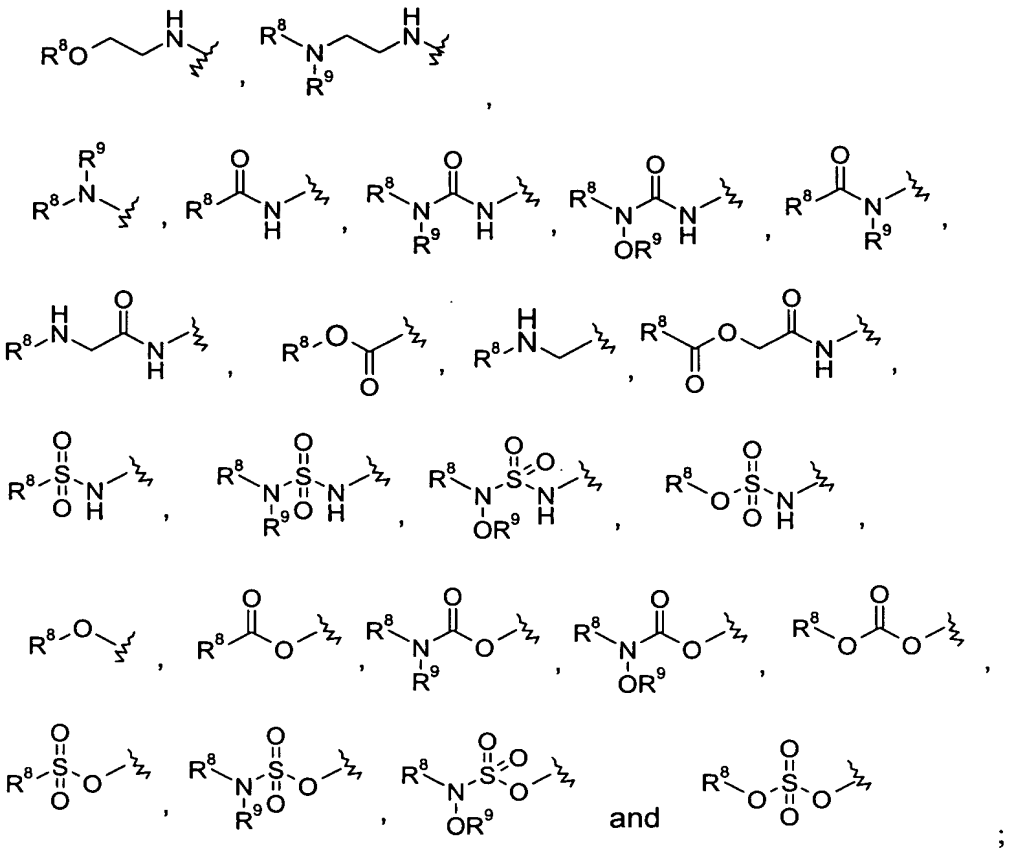
Ar is selected from C_{6-10}aryl and C_{3-8}heteroaryl;

n is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

each of R^3 is independently selected from –H, nitro, halogen, C_{1-10}alkyl C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl and



optionally subsitituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, halogen, amino and C_{1-6}alkoxy,



;

each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from –H, C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-6}heterocylcyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, and a divalent C_{1-6}group that together with another divalent group selected from R^8 and R^9 forms a portion of a ring, wherein said C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-6}heterocylcyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, or divalent C_{1-6}group is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and $-NR^5R^6$; and

R^4 is selected from –H, C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, and C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl.

2. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein

R^1 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl-C(=O)-O-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, phenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, and C_4-

$_6$cycloalkenyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl-C(=O)-O-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, phenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, and C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl used in defining R^1 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and $-NR^5R^6$;

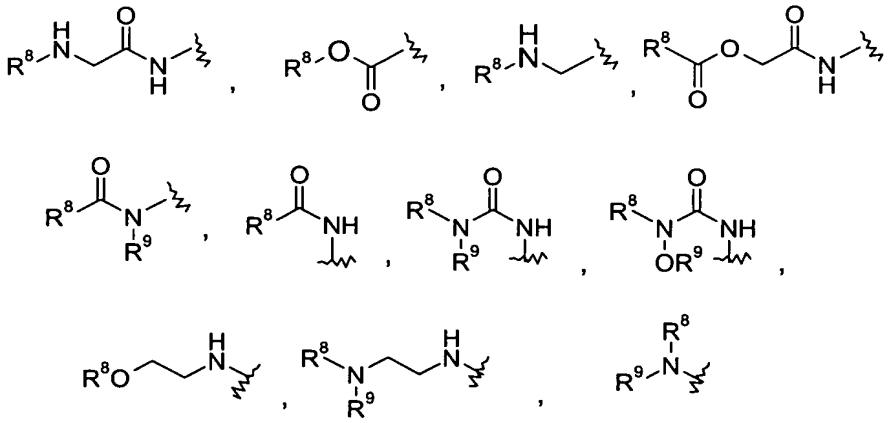
R^2 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-5}heteroaryl, R^5R^6N-, and phenyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-5}heteroaryl, R^5R^6N-, and phenyl used in defining R^2 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and amino;

wherein R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from –H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, and a divalent C_{1-6}alkylene that together with another divalent R^5 or R^6 and optionally a heteroatom forms a portion of a ring;

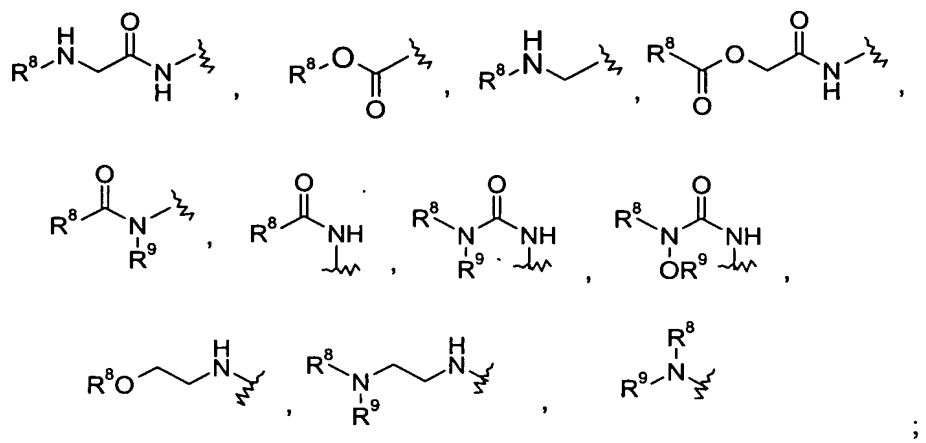
Ar is selected from phenyl and C_{3-5}heteroaryl;

n is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

each of R^3 is independently selected from –H, nitro, halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl,



and, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl optionally subsitituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, halogen and



each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from –H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl and C_{3-6}heterocylcyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl and C_{3-6}heterocylcyl-C_{1-6}alkyl are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and $-NR^{10}R^{11}$; and

R^4, R^{10} and R^{11} are independently selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl.

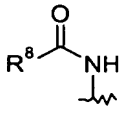
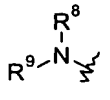
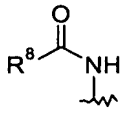
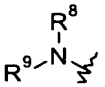
3. (original) A compound as claimed claim 1,

wherein R^1 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkyl-C(=O)-O-C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, phenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocylcoalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, and C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, phenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocylcoalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, and C_{4-6}cycloalkenyl used in defining R^1 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and amino;

R^2 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl and C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl and C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl used in defining R^2 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and amino;

Ar is selected from phenyl and C_{3-5}heteroaryl and

n is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

each of R^3 is independently selected from –H, halogen, nitro, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl  and  optionally subsitituted with one or more C_{1-6}alkyl or hydroxy,  and  ;

wherein said C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl contain at least one nitrogen ring atom and the radical of C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl is located on the at least one nitrogen ring atom, and wherein each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from –H, C_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinyl- C_{1-3}alkyl, pyrrolidinyl-C_{1-3}alkyl, and piperidinyl-C_{1-3}alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinyl- C_{1-3}alkyl, pyrrolidinyl-C_{1-3}alkyl, and piperidinyl-C_{1-3}alkyl are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and $-NR^5R^6$; and

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from –H and C_{1-3}alkyl.

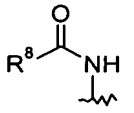
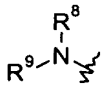
4. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein

R^1 is selected from cyclohexylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopropylmethyl,cyclohexylethyl, cyclopentylethyl, bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-en-2-ylmethyl, 4,4-difluorocyclohexylmethyl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl, tetrahydropyranylethyl, tetrahydrofuranylmethyl, 1-piperidinylethyl, and N-methyl-2-piperidinylmethyl;

R^2 is selected from t-butyl, n-butyl, 2-methyl-2-butyl, isopentyl, 2-methoxy-2-propyl, 2-hydroxyl-propyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 1-methyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-3-buten-1-yl, ethyl, and 2-propyl;

Ar is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, imidazolyl, and pyrazolyl;

n is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

each of R^3 is independently selected from –H, C_{1-3}alkyl, 4-morpholinyl, 1-piperidinyl, 1-piperazinyl,  and  ; and

wherein 4-morpholinyl, 1-piperidinyl, and 1-piperazinyl are optionally substituted with one or more methyl; and wherein

each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from –H, C_{1-3}alkyl, morpholinylmethyl, pyrrolidinyl-methyl, and piperidinyl-methyl, wherein said C_{1-3}alkyl, morpholinylmethyl, pyrrolidinyl-methyl, and piperidinyl-methyl are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from hydroxy, amino and dimethylamino.

5. (original) A compound selected from:

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]thiophene-2-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylthiophene-2-sulfonamide;

N-(1-Benzyl-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,3,5-trimethylisoxazole-4-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,1,2-trimethyl-1*H*-imidazole-4-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,1,3,5-tetramethyl-1*H*-pyrazole-4-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzene sulphonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-ethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-isopropyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzene sulphonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methylcyclopropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylpropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethyl-3-butenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methyl-4-piperidinyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-ethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzene sulphonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-isopropyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzene sulphonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methylcyclopropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methyl-4-piperidinyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl- benzenesulfonamide;

4-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-5-[methyl(phenylsulfonyl)amino]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl]-1,1-dimethyl- piperidinium;

N-[2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1-[(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1-[(tetrahydro-2-furanyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclopropylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl) acetamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-6-morpholin-4-ylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide;

4-Amino-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)propanamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-methylpropanamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(ethylamino)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(formylamino)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

2-Bromo-*N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-pyrrolidin-1-ylacetamide;

N^1-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-N^2,N^2-dimethylglycinamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-morpholin-4-ylacetamide;

N^1-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)glycinamide;

2-[(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl acetate;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-(4-morpholinyl)-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]—benzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,1,2-trimethyl-1*H*-imidazole-5-sulfonamide;

Ethyl 4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}-3,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2-carboxylate;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(hydroxymethyl)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)benzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]methyl}-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclopentylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(2-cyclohexylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(1-Benzylpyrrolidin-3-yl)-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-{2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-ethylpropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-ethylpropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-methyl-*N*-[2-(1-methyl-1-pyridin-2-ylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-(1-cyano-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-methyl-*N*-[2-propyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

5-Bromo-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-chloro-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;

5-Bromo-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;

N-(5-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}pyridin-2-yl)acetamide;

N-(3-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N^1-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-N^2-(2-hydroxyethyl)glycinamide;

4-[(Aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-*N*-methylacetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;

N^1-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-N^2,N^2-dimethylglycinamide;

N^1-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)glycinamide;

N^1-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-*N*^{2}-methylglycinamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-methoxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-(formylamino)-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;

N-(5-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}pyridin-2-yl)acetamide;

N-[4-({[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;

N-[4-({[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(2-piperidin-1-ylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(1,4-dioxan-2-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-(4-{[{2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(1-methylpiperidin-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}(methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-(4-{[(2-*tert*-Butyl-1-{[(2*R*)-1-methylpiperidin-2-yl]methyl}-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)(methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;

4-Bromo-*N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(dimethylamino)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

4-[bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,4-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-1,4-benzoxazine-7-sulfonamide;

N-[4-({methyl[2-(1-methyl-1-pyridin-2-ylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethyl-4-{[(methylamino)carbonyl]amino}benzenesulfonamide;

4-amino-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;

2-[(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl acetate;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;

N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethyl-4-{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}benzenesulfonamide;

N-[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;

4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-ethyl-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-ethyl-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-{[(methylamino)carbonyl]amino}benzenesulfonamide;

4-amino-*N*-ethyl-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;

2-{[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]amino}-2-oxoethyl acetate;

N-[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]-2-hydroxyacetamide;

N-ethyl-4-{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

N-(4-{[[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

2-Hydroxy-*N*-(4-{[[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-(1-ethoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-[4-({[1-(2-azetidin-1-ylethyl)-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;

3-[5-({[4-(acetylamino)phenyl]sulfonyl}amino)-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]propyl acetate;

N-{4-[({1-[(1*S*,4*S*)-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-en-2-ylmethyl]-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}amino)sulfonyl]phenyl}acetamide;

N-[4-({[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-3-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;

N-{4-[({2-*tert*-butyl-1-[2-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)ethyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}amino)sulfonyl]phenyl}acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;

N-(4-{[[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

N-(4-{[[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-3-methylbutanamide;
N-(4-{[[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;
N-[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
4-{Bis[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}-*N*-[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
N-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;
4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
N-methyl-4-nitro-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
4-amino-*N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
2,2-dimethyl-*N*-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]propanamide;
2-{[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]amino}-2-oxoethyl acetate;
4-{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}-*N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
2-Hydroxy-*N*-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) ~~The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-5 in the manufacture of a medicament for the~~A method for treatment of anxiety disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in

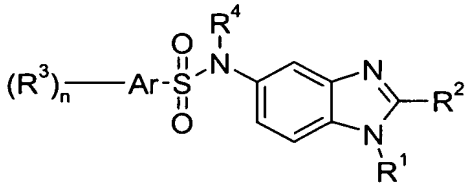
need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1..

9. (currently amended) ~~The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-5 in the manufacture of a medicament~~A method for the treatment of cancer, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, cancer, Huntington's chorea, Alzheimer's disease, gastrointestinal disorders and cardiavascular disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

10. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~ claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

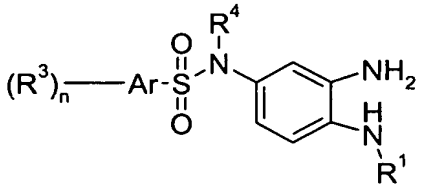
11. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~ claim 1.

12. (original) A method for preparing a compound of Formula I,



I

comprising the step of reacting a compound of Formula II,



II

with a compound of $R^2C(=O)X$, in the presence of a base and optionally a coupling reagent, followed by treatment with an acid;

wherein

X is selected from Cl, Br, F and OH;

R^1 is selected from C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, R^5-C(=O)-O-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6N-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5O-C_{1-6} alkyl, R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5CS(=O)$_2$N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-C_{1-6}alkyl, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$N(R^7)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-10}hydrocarbylamino, R^5R^6N-, R^5O-, R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$-, R^5CS(=O)$_2$N(-R^6)-, R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-, R^5R^6NS(=O)$_2$N(R^7)-, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl and C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-; wherein said C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-10}hydrocarbylamino, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl or C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)- used in defining R^1 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and –NR^5R^6;

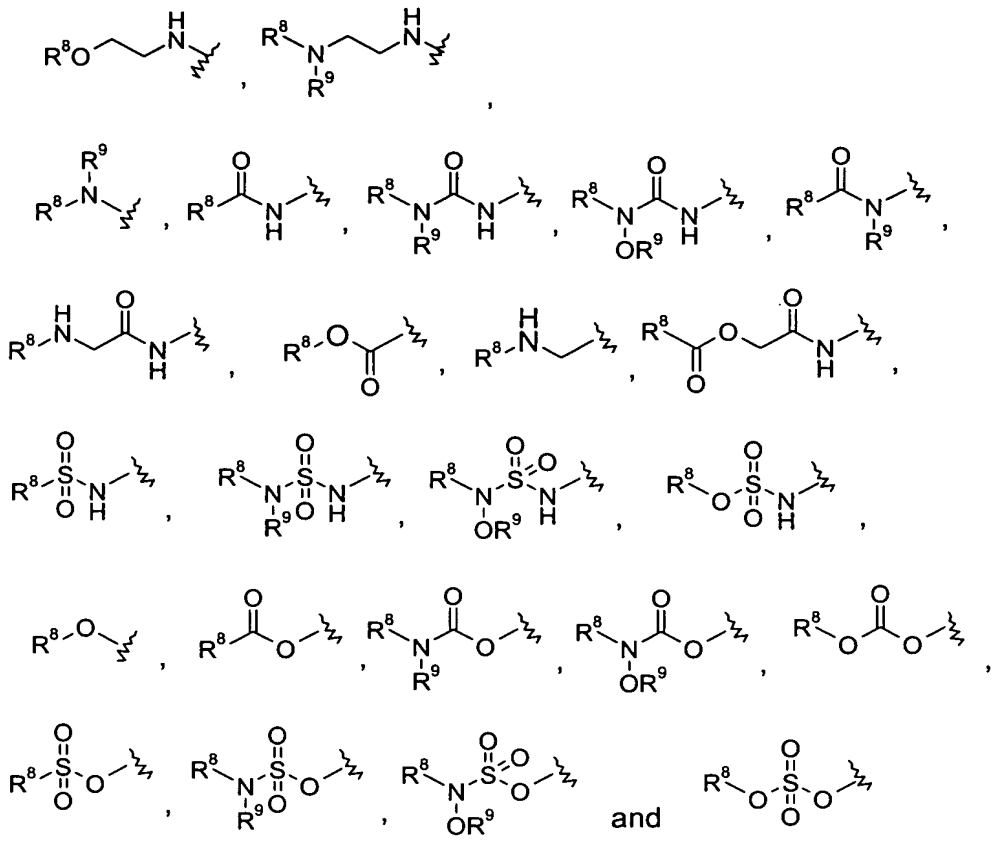
R^2 is selected from C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, R^5R^6N-, C_{3-5}heteroaryl, C_{6-10}aryl and C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, C_{3-8}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl, C_{3-5}heteroaryl, C_{6-10}aryl or C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl used in defining R^2 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and –NR^5R^6;

wherein R^5, R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from –H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, and a divalent C_{1-6}group that together with another divalent R^5, R^6 or R^7 forms a portion of a ring;

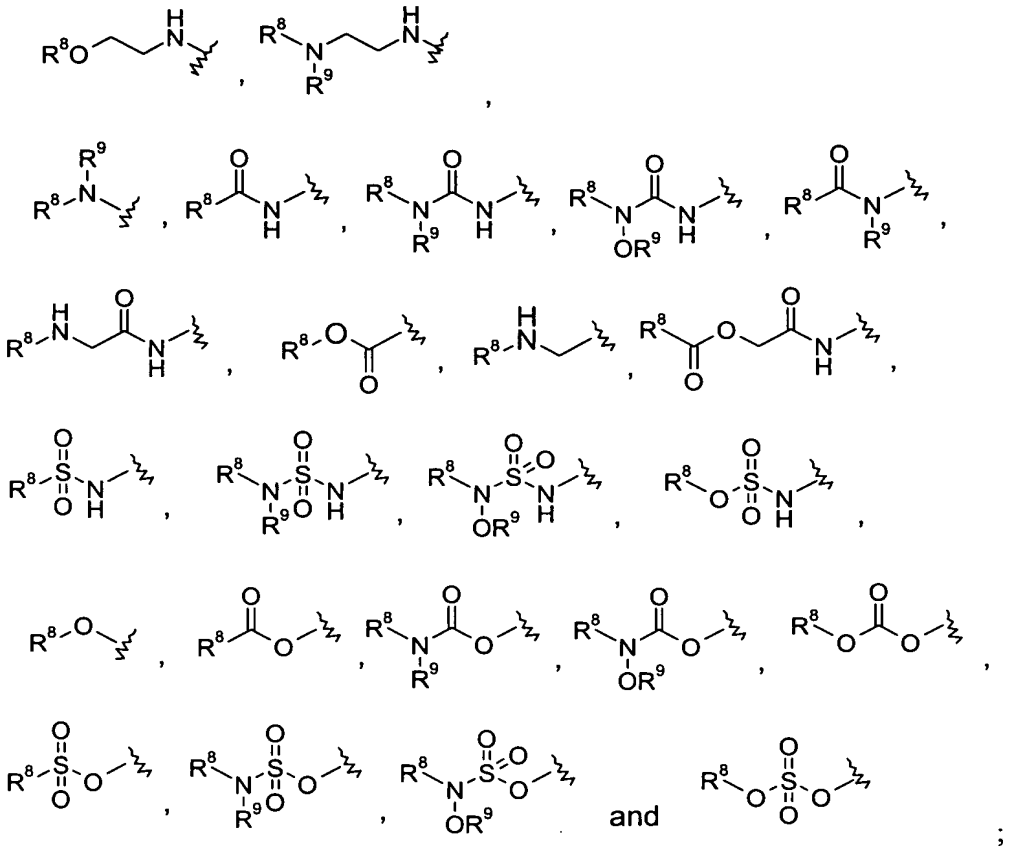
Ar is selected from C_{6-10}aryl and C_{3-8}heteroaryl;

n is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

each of R^3 is independently selected from –H, nitro, halogen, C_{1-10}alkyl ,C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl



optionally subsitituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, halogen, amino and C_{1-6}alkoxy,



;

each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from –H, C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-6}heterocylcyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, and a divalent C_{1-6}group that together with another divalent group selected from R^8 and R^9 forms a portion of a ring, wherein said C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}heterocyclyl, C_{6-10}aryl, C_{3-6}heterocylcyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl, or divalent C_{1-6}group is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and $-NR^5R^6$; and

R^4 is selected from –H, C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl, and C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl.

13. (New) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 2.

14. (New) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 3.

15. (New) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 4.

16. (New) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 5.